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balance with the Na^+ and K^+ taken up was due to the toxic conditions of the experiments. He ends by saying that NATHANSON'S methods are not at all reliable for permeability measurements, and that they cannot be taken as the basis of any explanation of the regulatory permeability of the *Plasmahaut*.—WILLIAM CROCKER.

Fossil woods of Germany.—GOTHAN²⁸ has described two fossil woods occurring in the brown coals at Senftenberg, from the Lower Miocene. One is a Cupressinoxylon type, *Taxodioxydon sequoianum* Gothan, the structure corresponding to that of *Sequoia sempervirens*. The Cupressinoxylon type of wood in this locality, as in general, is the form most abundantly represented in the brown coals of the Miocene as well as in the Oligocene. The reference of this wood to *Sequoia sempervirens*, or to a closely related species, is in accordance with reports by WEBER, according to whom leaf impressions in beds of similar age at Bonn all belong to *Sequoia Langsdorffii*. The second wood described is that of a new species of pine, *Pinus parryoides*. Although woods of the Abietineae are not nearly so abundant in the brown coals of this horizon as are those of Taxodioxydon structure, they are not rare, and always belong to the group with resin ducts. The epithelium cell walls of the resin ducts of the new pine are provided with pores like those of *Picea* and *Larix*, a character not found in any of the recent pines. The question as to its true position is considered at some length, the author arriving at the conclusion that it is the wood of a true *Pinus*, the character at variance having been lost in recent forms, and that it should be placed in either §PARRYA or §BALFOURIA. Representatives of either of these sections are found only in western North America and eastern Asia.—REINHARDT THIESSEN.

Morphology of Juniperus.—NICHOLS²⁹ has made a detailed study of the morphology of the American variety (*depressa*) of *Juniperus communis*, obtaining his material from three seasons of collecting near New Haven, Conn. Naturally it is largely confirmatory of the work of NORÉN, SLUDSKY, and MISS OTTLEY, but is especially interesting in its establishment of the time intervals. The staminate strobilus begins to develop during the summer of the year preceding pollination, the mother cells enter into the synapsis stage about May 1, and there is a period of about twelve and one-half months between pollination (May 25) and fertilization. The ovulate strobili begin to appear a few weeks before pollination, the megaspore tetrad is formed late in April, and the female gametophyte develops in about six weeks. The body cell and the central cell divide about three days before fertilization, so that at fusion the egg and sperm are not more than three days old. Some of the more interesting details are as follows: the wall of the microsporangium

²⁸ GOTHAN, W., Ueber Braunkohlenhölzer des rheinischen Tertiärs. Jahrb. Königl. Preuss. Geol. Landesanstalt 30:516-532. 1909.

²⁹ NICHOLS, GEORGE E., A morphological study of *Juniperus communis* var. *depressa*. Beih. Bot. Centralbl. 25:201-241. pls. 8-17. figs. 4. 1910.